

CLAIMS

1. An effervescent formulation comprising apomorphine.
- 5 2. An effervescent formulation according to Claim 1 comprising multilayer effervescent microspheres.
- 10 3. An effervescent formulation according to Claim 2 wherein the multilayer effervescent microspheres contain an acidic substance, a basic substance and water-soluble isolating agent.
- 15 4. An effervescent formulation according to Claim 3 wherein dissolution in water of the multilayer effervescent microspheres leads, after almost immediate effervescence, to a solution or a homogeneous dispersion of the apomorphine.
- 20 5. An effervescent formulation according to Claim 4 wherein the water-soluble isolating agent is dispersed in the entire bulk of each microsphere, the latter having a two-layer structure: a layer of acidic substance in which is dispersed the water-soluble isolating agent and a layer of alkaline substance in which is dispersed the water-soluble isolating agent.
- 25 6. An effervescent formulation according to Claim 4 wherein the water-soluble isolating agent is in the form of a thin film separating the acidic and alkaline substances such that each microsphere has a three-layer structure: a layer of acidic substance and a layer of alkaline substance separated by a layer of water-soluble isolating agent.

7. An effervescent formulation according to any of the preceding claims wherein the apomorphine is present in a unit dose amount of from 0.5mg to 50mg.

5 8. An effervescent formulation according to Claim 7 wherein the apomorphine is present in a unit dose amount of 2mg to 3mg.

9. An effervescent formulation according to any of the preceding claims wherein the formulation is presented in a tablet form.

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10. An effervescent formulation according to Claims 1 to 8 wherein the formulation is presented in a powder form.

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11. An effervescent formulation according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the apomorphine is present within a microsphere.

12. An effervescent formulation according to any one of the preceding Claims 1 to 11 wherein the apomorphine is not present within a microsphere.

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13. An effervescent formulation according to any of the preceding claims obtained or obtainable by the process of any one of Claims 16 to 25.

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14. An effervescent formulation according to any one of the previous claims for use in medicine.

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effervescent formulation according to any one of Claims 1 to 13 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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16. A process for making an effervescent formulation containing apomorphine.
17. A process according to Claim 16 wherein the effervescent formulation comprises multilayer effervescent microspheres containing an acidic substance, a basic substance, and a water-soluble isolating agent which upon dissolution in water leads, after almost immediate effervescence, to a solution or a homogeneous dispersion of apomorphine.
18. A process according to Claim 17 wherein the acidic and/or basic substances contains or contain apomorphine.
19. A process according to Claim 16 or Claim 17 wherein the apomorphine is not present in microspheres.
20. A process according to Claim 18 which employs the method of rotary granulation in a fluidized air bed.
21. A process according to Claims 17 to 20 wherein basic substance also contains an edible diluant and/or flavourings and/or sweeteners.
22. A process according to Claims 17 to 21 wherein the apomorphine is present in an amount to give from 0.5mg to 50mg in the final unit dosage form.
23. A process according to Claim 22 wherein the apomorphine is present in an amount to give from 2mg to 3mg in the final unit dosage form.
24. A process according to any one of Claims 16 to 23 further comprising preparing the microspheres into a tablet.

25. A process according to Claim 24 wherein the apomorphine is present on or between the microspheres in the tablet.

5 26. An effervescent formulation of apomorphine obtained or obtainable by the process of any one of Claims 16 to 25.

10 27. A method of treating human male or female sexual dysfunction comprising administering to said human an effervescent formulation of apomorphine according to any one of Claims 1 to 13 and/or obtained or obtainable by a process as defined in any one of Claims 16 to 26 and/or a pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 15.

15 28. Use of an effervescent formulation of apomorphine according to any one of Claims 1 to 13 and/or obtained or obtainable by a process as defined in any one of Claims 16 to 26 and/or a pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 15 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of male or female sexual dysfunction.